

GIRL SHRIEKED IN COURTROOM.

Fell on Her Knees, Fearing Her Uncle Was Going to Take Boy of Eleven, His Son, Her Cousin, from Her Side.

AN AUNT HAD THE CHILD.

Little Chap Shrank from Parent and Sister Who Wanted to Take Him Away After Four Years in His New Home.

Eleven-year-old Eugene A. Riker, and his mother, were the subject of legal contention among his relatives before Justice Fitzgerald in the Supreme Court today, when his sister, Annabel Riker, just twice his age, sought by writ of habeas corpus to wrest him from his aunt, Sarah Louise Allen, of No. 251 West Twenty-second street, who has given him a home since his mother died, when he was four years old.

Little Eugene, in a fine suit of dark blue, with knee trousers, white vest and white bow tie, was brought to court by Mrs. Allen's comely daughter, Agnes, to whom he clung desperately, and Rev. R. S. Ingalls, of the Third Presbyterian Church.

Shrank from His Father. When he appealed his father, Edward Riker, for the first time in four years, the little fellow burst into tears and shrank into the folds of Mrs. Allen's skirt.

Riker had a sparse beard and hair of gray, and looked unprosperous. He came forward and tried to draw the boy from his pretty cousin's side. She clutched him all the tighter. The little fellow cried, Miss Allen, thinking he was going to take the child, fell on her knees and shrieked hysterically until a court officer restored order.

"I want to stay with auntie," sobbed the little fellow, digging his eyes with his kid-gloved hands. "Do you think my father can get him away from us?" asked Herbert Riker, nineteen years old, of an Evening World reporter, tearfully. "He has done nothing for us since our mother died. My aunt has given us a home. My sister Annabel left us eight months ago. Why does she do this thing?"

In her petition the sister recites the formal declaration that the little fellow is detained by his aunt against his will and she is deprived of his company, and describes the sister as his general guardian in New Jersey. The return to the writ says the father is unfit and unable to care for the lad and that the sister got herself appointed guardian in New Jersey for the purpose of this writ. She lives at Rosedale, N. J.

Justice Fitzgerald sent all hands to a stenographer in the basement to have the testimony taken. By this time there were twenty persons on each side, and they ranged on opposing sides of Stenographer James Neill's office.

"I'll call Capt. William M. Daily, of the Newark police, as my first witness," announced Matthew J. Ready, attorney for the dark-eyed sister who had applied for the writ.

Some Startling Testimony. "Thank God, my poor mother died before his disgrace fell upon us!" exclaimed Herbert Riker.

Capt. Daily testified that he raided a disorderly-house in South street, Newark, April 10, 1887, and lodged six women and some men to the station-house. The proprietress, he said, was Miss Louise Allen, and he identified the gray-haired aunties of the Riker children as his prisoner.

Mrs. Allen clawed the air frantically and seemed about to faint or have a fit. Little Eugene cried piteously and Herbert paced the floor and swung his arms threateningly, declaring he would punch somebody unnamed.

The lawyer read an indictment of Mrs. Allen by the Essex County Grand Jury.

Distance Relatives Attempt to Upset the Document by Which Adopted Son Got \$250,000.

About seventy distant relatives of Mrs. Anna W. Ferris, who, dying in July, at the age of eighty-six years, left a quarter of a million dollars, have begun a fight for the estate. About twenty of them filed a notice of contest to-day in the office of Probate Clerk Jacob Washburn.

Clark S. Comstock, Edward S. Ewen, Julius F. Culver, Ferdinand Douglass and Edith Mabel Ewen head the list of contestants, who bring the suit on conventional grounds. Edith Mabel Ewen makes the additional charge that Mrs. Ferris was the victim of fraud and deceit by Henry Ferris, her adopted son, or by Horace E. Mead, Jr.

MARIE DRESSLER, WHO IS DANGEROUSLY ILL.



Singing her favorite coon songs in her delirium, Marie Dressler, the actress, is dangerously ill at the Loretta Apartments, in West Forty-fifth street. Her recovery is in doubt.

Miss Dressler is so very weak that

the exertion she is making in singing her old songs, imagining that she is playing roles before an audience, is wearing out her life. Unless the fever and delirium are conquered at once no hope is entertained for her.

MILLIONAIRE IS FORCED TO PAY.

Jury Decides Broker Is Entitled to Commission Even Though Loan Is Not Used.

Justice O'Gorman, of the Supreme Court, and a jury, have established the principle that a broker is entitled to his commission for securing a loan, even though the intending borrower concludes he can get along without the loan. A verdict for \$1,655.50 in favor of Thomas P. Payne, a broker who sued John T. Williams, the millionaire owner of Lord's Court and part owner of the Central Bank Building and other downtown skyscrapers, through Jacob Marks, who was ex-

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MISS CROSMAN DIDN'T 'BOO-HOO'

But Her Audience Thought She Was Going To in That Tremulous Stage Speech She Made on Saturday.

MABELLE GILMAN'S PAPA.

He's Very Proud of His Talented Daughter and Displays Her Pictures in His Sacramento Dry-Goods Store Window.

To be sure, it's not an altogether new thing for an actress to make a certain speech, but it did seem a bit odd to see Henrietta Crossman step out of the absurdly romantic atmosphere of "The Sword of the King" at Wallack's on Saturday afternoon and say "Thank you" and "Au revoir!"

"It brings a lump in my throat," said she, with a gulp and a grimace, "to think that this is my last Saturday in New York."

One hand fell limply against a shapely limb, brave in male contraption, and there was a tremor in the tones which almost warranted the fear that the woman who could be so dashingly courageous in mimic situations was going to break down in this real one and indulge in a thoroughly feminine "boo-hoo!"

But Miss Crossman didn't. She cast a parting-sad look at her audience of sympathetic sisters and told them to cheer up and remember she'd be back again with the flowers and the organ grinders in the spring. "And," she added, "I ask you to keep a warm corner in your hearts for me until then."

"Of course we will, dear," is the way the assuring applause which answered her sounded.

Nothing was said about keeping a \$2 bill in her pockets.

Charlotte Walker, who follows Miss Crossman at Wallack's to-night as leading lady with James K. Hackett in "The

Crisis," was figuratively speaking, swept back on the stage by the Galveston flood. Born and bred in Texas, she early felt a fascination for the footlights, but love, some time later, lured her away, and she became the wife of an old sweetheart—a physician. The young couple had set themselves up in housekeeping at Galveston only a short time when the great flood swept away their earthly possessions and left them practically penniless. This misfortune decided Miss Walker to return to the stage and help earn a new home. She's already saved enough for a "cozy corner."

Speaking of home, it is home-and-father, not home-and-mother with Mabelle Gilman, chief chirper in "The Mocking Bird," at the Bijou. The story goes that out in Sacramento, Cal., Miss

Gilman's father keep a small every-day-la-bargain-day dry-goods and notion store. Every new photograph of herself that Miss Gilman sends home her father, it is said, places in the show window where it stands in state, festooned with bleached and unbleached muslins and stockings upon which "the price is plainly marked."

Whenever a fresh picture arrives and is exhibited in the window, the father, so they say, takes the greatest pleasure in calling it to the attention of friends and customers. He is very proud of Mabelle. He knows her when she had only one "p" and one "e" to her name. Now count 'em!

To Talk on Gambetta.

Prof. G. Castagnier will deliver a free lecture on Gambetta in Public School No. 10, at St. Nicholas avenue and One Hundred and Seventeenth street, to-night. The talk is one of the Board of Education course.

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MISS PERSIS THOMPSON.....	Contralto
MR. L. W. CLARY.....	Baritone
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2. WHEN THOU ART NEAR ME.....	Mr. Clary.....Lohr
3. THE QUEST.....	Miss Thompson.....Smith
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7. SONG OF THANKSGIVING.....	Miss Thompson.....Alltreen
8. A SPRING SONG.....	Mme. Williams.....Woodman
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